

# PROCLAMATION

BY THE

## Governor of the State of Texas

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TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 14, of the Texas Constitution, I, Rick Perry, Governor of Texas, do hereby disapprove of and veto House Bill No. 1839 as passed by the Seventy-Eighth Texas Legislature, Regular Session, because of the following objections:

House Bill No. 1839 would reduce local control by mandating the use of private third-party providers in gathering pawnbroker's transaction information. This legislation also diminishes an important criminal investigation tool by limiting the type and extent of pawn transaction information available to local law enforcement.

For example, local law enforcement currently has the ability to receive pawn transaction information upon request. This bill limits their access to paper transaction documents to on-site inspection if the pawnbroker releases the transaction data electronically to a private company. As a result, police officers will no longer receive paper copies, but will be required to use a portable photocopier to generate admissible records.

Also, pawnbrokers are no longer required to share the paper ticket with the police after 180 days, unless it is sought pursuant to a criminal investigation. The unintended consequence of these provisions is that local law enforcement may not be able to access any pawn transaction information during the seven days permitted by the bill for the transfer of electronic information. This limitation places severe restrictions on very time-sensitive information.

Since the Legislature by its adjournment has prevented the return of this bill, I am filing these objections in the office of the Secretary of State and giving notice thereof by this public proclamation according to the aforementioned constitutional provision.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have signed my name officially and caused the Seal of the State to be affixed hereto at Austin, this 20th day of June, 2003.

*Rick Perry*  
RICK PERRY  
Governor of Texas

ATTESTED BY:

*Gwyn Shea*  
GWYN SHEA  
Secretary of State

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
3:30 PM O'CLOCK

JUN 21 2003